

# SPECIFICATION SHEET

## Vedette™ Siren Activation System

*Manufactured by:*

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### SIREN CONTROLLER FEATURES

**Solid State Electronic Circuitry** - NO MOVING PARTS to wear out or break down.

**Adjustable Siren Output** - the Vedette can be custom tailored to its installation. The user can adjust the number of siren cycles per alarm as well as the siren gain time per cycle, all by flipping a switch!

**Quartz Controlled Digital Clock** - for maximum accuracy. Clock display is in a 24 hour time format for use by dispatchers and for ease in filling out times on fire reports (no need to convert standard 12 hour time format to 24 hour format). Clock also automatically controls the daily test of the siren. Battery backed circuitry allows the clock to keep perfect time even during power failures.

**Remote Monitoring Capability** - the Vedette can monitor for fire over eight separate inputs. Out of these eight, five can be used to monitor for fire from remote locations (such as a school, church, factory, etc.). When a report of fire is received from the fire alarm panel at this remote location, the Vedette will activate the fire siren.

**Standby Battery** - a standby power source built into the Vedette will allow the unit to keep operating a minimum of 72 hours without AC power. Although most fire sirens will not operate during periods of AC power failure, the Vedette's optional paging module (see below), if installed, will still be able to page personnel to automatic alarms, thus eliminating the risk of not being notified in such a situation.

**Accessory Output** - an automatic switch built into the Vedette is designed to close during all activated alarms. This switch can be used to operate automatic garage door openers, vehicle exhaust systems, lights, bells, truck starters - the possibilities are only limited by your imagination!

**False Alarm Prevention** - built into each Vedette is the ability to suppress false signals caused by lightning and other electrical disturbances that would otherwise cause the siren to be activated accidentally. This adds to the reliability and dependability of the system.

### OPTIONS

**Paging Module** - when installed, this optional unit will allow the Vedette to page fire personnel to the exact locations of alarms in addition to activating the siren.\* This feature is useful in situations when personnel would not normally be paged (i.e. a pull station on the outside of the fire station activated by the public, or a remotely monitored building).

### WARRANTY PERIOD

One year parts and labor from date of installation. A warranty card included with each Vedette is mailed back to the factory to activate the warranty. Servicing of the unit is handled by the installer.

*Use of the paging module requires interconnection with a central station monitoring service.*

## Commonly Asked Questions Regarding the VEDETTE Siren Activation System

### **Q. What exactly does the Vedette do?**

**A.** The function of the Vedette is to cycle a department's fire siren when they are dispatched to an alarm. Additionally, it is capable of providing a daily noon test of the siren, paging personnel to automatic alarms, and more. A 72 hour battery backup allows the Vedette to function even during a power failure.

### **Q. Our department is tone-dispatched automatically by our County Control Center. Do we still need a Vedette?**

**A.** Yes. The function of the tone receiver at your station is to monitor the radio for your dispatch tone. When it detects your tone, the receiver then starts the siren cycling equipment in your firehouse. The Vedette, which replaces your outdated cycling equipment, would also be started by your tone receiver for all radio-dispatched alarms.

### **Q. We use a very old siren. Does it need to be replaced before we can use the Vedette?**

**A.** The Vedette is designed to cycle all types of mechanical sirens. That is, any siren driven by an electric motor. Many fire departments in the United States use old sirens, most being civil defense surplus from the World War II era. It is our experience that aside from occasional siren motor inspections, these workhorses hardly ever break down. The problems that departments experience is usually with the siren cycling equipment, not the siren itself.

### **Q. Our district recently "went 911". We don't need a Vedette.**

**A.** While we agree that 911 is a great breakthrough in communications for the fire service, it should be realized that 911 service does **NOT** replace the need for a reliable siren activation system. The purpose of 911 is to allow for smoother communication between the public and your dispatcher when reporting an emergency. When your department is dispatched to an alarm, the dispatcher is still using radio tones to do the job. 911 **does not** affect the method in which you are dispatched. Therefore, a properly operating siren activation system is still a vital tool.

### **Q. Our department uses an air horn instead of a siren. Can we use the Vedette to operate our horn?**

**A.** In many cases, the Vedette has been installed to successfully operate air horns for alarms. However, if your department uses coded blasts for different types of alarms, this would not be supportable.

### **Q. We just installed a fire alarm panel in our station complete with pull stations, heat, and smoke detectors. This panel is also monitored by a service that will call our dispatcher if there is a fire. Couldn't this fire alarm panel also cycle our siren?**

**A.** The answer is no. The job of a fire alarm panel is to detect fire and then warn occupants by sounding a bell or similar alarm and in some cases, alert a monitoring service. Commercial fire alarm panels are NOT capable of cycling a fire siren when a fire is detected. However, these alarm panels can be connected to the Vedette to provide automatic siren activation in the event of a fire. Lastly, with the Vedette's optional paging module, you can monitor your station as well as other remote locations in your fire district for fire. This way, if an alarm panel starts the Vedette upon detection of fire, the Vedette will activate your siren AND contact your dispatcher so that you will be paged to the exact location of the alarm.